


ERIBC REPORTS

REPORT NO. 77:12

GITKSAN NATIVE STUDIES CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Susan Marsden

**Educational Research Institute
of
British Columbia**

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REPORT NO.: 77:12

TITLE: GITKSAN NATIVE STUDIES CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

GRANT NO.: DG-153

AUTHOR(S): Susan Marsden
Chairperson
Gitksan Native Studies Advisory Group
School District No. 88 (Terrace)

PROJECT DIRECTOR: _____
(if different
from author) Susan Marsden

PROJECT SITE OR SAMPLE: the Kispiox village

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Rec'd: June 1981
Order No.: B695
Price: \$1.20
Acc. No.: ERIBC

Box 127,
Vancouver, B.C.

May 2, 1977

The Educational Bureau
of British Columbia
100 - 315 West 10th
Vancouver, B.C.
V5Z 4A2

GITKSAN NATIVE STUDIES
CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

For Discretionary Grant

Please excuse the delay in submitting this final report. We had one final matter to clear up before the program which you funded could be considered complete.

\$500.00 of the money given us was used to pay Edith Goss for research in Hupla village. With the assistance of the Curriculum Development Department from School District No. 37, she collected and recorded 14 stories as well as an informant character and various pieces of cultural information about each of these birds.

Susan Marsden

The \$50.00 remaining was paid to Herbert Bailey of Hixwaguk, a chief of the Grouse clan. It was discovered, after the stories had been re-written and illustrated, that one of the stories was the personal possession of this chief. He agreed to allow us to use this story in our publication for \$50.00.

That is as far as the Discretionary Grant took us. A teacher at the North Vancouver School, Mrs. Robin Thistle, who is also a writer, very kindly re-wrote the stories, each in an intermediate and a primary version. He also illustrated them in the Gitksan style in felt marker, after taking a locally offered course in Gitksan art. He very generously donated the many hours of work he put into this. The book, titled 'Birds of the Rain' will be sent to you.

This project received financial support in the form of Descretionary Grant No. 153 from the Educational Research Institute Of British Columbia.

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Box 226,
Kitwanga, B.C.

May 2, 1977

The Educational Research Institute
of British Columbia,
400 - 515 West 10th Avenue,
Vancouver, B.C.
V5Z 4A8

Re: Discretionary Grants

Please excuse the delay in submitting this final report. We had one final matter to clear up before the program which you funded could be considered complete.

\$590.00 of the moneys given us was used to pay Edith Gawa for research in Kispiox village. With the assistance of the Curriculum Development Researcher from School District No. 88, she collected and recorded 14 stories having a bird figure as an important character and various pieces of cultural information about each of these birds.

The \$50.00 remaining was paid to Herbert Wesley of Kitsegukla, a chief of the Grouse clan. It was discovered, after the stories had been re-written and illustrated, that one of the stories was the personal possession of this chief. He agreed to allow us to use this story in our publication for \$50.00.

That is as far as the Discretionary Grant took us. A teacher at the South Hazelton School, Mr. Robin Thistle, who is also a writer, very kindly re-wrote the stories, each in an intermediate and a primary version. He also illustrated them in the Gitksan style in full colour, after taking a locally offered course in Gitksan art. He very generously donated the many hours of work he put into this. The book, titled 'Birds of the Ksan' will be sent to the printer this month and should be in the Resource Centre of School District No. 88, Terrace, by the end of June.

The companion volume of the same title is being written now. In this book are the cultural uses of the birds featured in the stories, footnotes on various other cultural data in the stories, and a section on scientific information about each of the birds.

The filmstrip, approximately 70 frames of Lansdowne paintings, representing one third of all the local birds, is complete. Accompanying this filmstrip will be a tape of bird songs and calls which is being prepared by the Victoria Museum of British Columbia.

Also included in this unit are 20 slides of the totem poles in this area which show bird crest figures. This is almost complete.

There will be 50 sets of this unit available for loan only from the District No. 88 Resource Centre. Institutions outside the District may borrow it too.

Everyone involved in this project is most excited about it. Barring technical difficulties, which seem to have presented the greatest problems so far, we see no reason why it shouldn't be ready for use in September.

Thank you for the copies of your newsletter mentioning our project, and thank you again for providing the crucial research moneys.

I hope this report has covered your areas of interest.

Yours sincerely,

Susan Marsden,
The Gitksan Native Studies
Advisory Group

School District No. 88 (Terrace)
Resource Centre
Coordinator,
3205 Kenny Street,
Terrace, B.C.
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Telephone: 635-4931
Local 42

Date Due

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MARSDEN, Susan.

AUTHOR

Gitksan native studies curriculum

TITLE

development.

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MARSDEN, Susan

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